

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, ID

SUBJECT:STATUS OF STUDENTS IN INDONESIA

1. RABBI MARC TANENBAUM, RESPECTED MEMBER OF INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE, HAS REQUESTED MEETING WITH DAS OAKLEY TO DISCUSS ALONG WITH TWO U.S. ROMAN CATHOLIC LEADERS CONCERNS ABOUT STATUS OF CATHOLIC STUDENTS IN INDONESIA. CATHOLIC LEADERS ON WHOSE BEHALF MEETING BEING SOUGHT ARE PROF. THOMAS BIRD, PRESIDENT-ELECT OF PAX ROMANA, THE INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC PEACE MOVEMENT, AND FR. JOHN RADANO, CHAIRMAN OF PAX ROMANA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

2. RABBI TANENBAUM'S REQUEST IS BASED ON LETTER PROVIDED HIM BY BIRD AND FR. RADANO WHICH SENT TO PRESIDENT SUHARTO MARCH 14 BY FR. JACK CLANCEY OF MARYKNOLL MISSION, ASSISTANT ASIAN CHAPLAIN OF INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT OF CATHOLIC STUDENTS, SECRETARIAT OF WHICH LOCATED IN HONG KONG, AND CYNNYC CHENG, ASIAN COORDINATOR OF MOVEMENT. LETTER REFERS

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TO NEWS THAT NUMBER OF NAMED STUDENTS AND "HUNDREDS OF OTHERS" (N.B. NOT ALL ARE CATHOLIC) ARRESTED IN RECENT MONTHS AND THAT SOME OF STUDENTS PICKED UP AT HOMES WITHOUT WARRANTS BY UNIFORMED MEN AND SINCE BARRED FROM MEETING FAMILY MEMBERS. LETTER THEN SUMMARIZES STUDENT CRITICISMS OF GOVERNMENT AND STATES THAT, IF CRITICISMS TRUE, GOI

SHOULD BEGIN PROCESS OF "SELF-REFLECTION AND SELF-IMPROVEMENT" RATHER THAN DETAINING STUDENTS BECAUSE THEY HAVE "UTTERED THE TRUTH". LETTER CONTINUES WITH EXPOSITION OF RATIONALE FOR SUPPORT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND CRITICISM OF MILITARY GOVERNMENTS, CLOSING WITH "DEMAND" THAT STUDENTS BE IMMEDIATELY AND UNCONDITIONALLY RELEASED AND THAT GOI ACT ON STUDENT CRITICISM. COPY OF LETTER BEING POUCHED.

3. STUDENTS LISTED IN LETTER ARE:

MARCUS MALI, KRISNADWIPAYANA UNIV.
GAUDENS WODAR, ATMA JAYA CATHOLIC UNIV.
MARTIMUS, UNIV.OF INDONESIA
HERI ACHMADI, ITB
LUKITO, PETRA UNIV.
CHUMADI SJARIEF, CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL BOARD, HMI
ACHMAD BAGJA, CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL BOARD, PMII
ALWI WISNU, "CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDUM", NATIONAL BOARD, GMNI
CHRIS Siner KEY TIMU, "CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDUM", 1975-77
NATIONAL BOARD, PMKRI
POLYCARPUS DA LOPEZ, "PRESIDIUM", NATIONAL BOARD, PMKRI
TONY WAWAORUNTU, SEC GEN, GMKI

4. WOULD APPRECIATE SOONEST ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY ON STATUS OF SPECIFIC STUDENTS LISTED AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EVALUATION GENERAL SITUATION IN PREPARATION FOR OAKLEY MEETING WITH TANENBAUM, BIRD AND FR. RADANO.
VANCE

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